



**Cardinal John O'Connor**

## Cardinal John O'Connor dies, former Navy Chief of Chaplains

*By Journalist 1st Class Joseph Gunder, Navy News Service*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Former Navy Chief of Chaplains, Cardinal John O'Connor, died May 3 at his residence near St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. His death was caused by complications resulting from a brain tumor and cancer. He was 80.

The Roman Catholic was the archbishop of New York,

serving the 2.37 million members of the nation's second largest archdiocese for 16 years. O'Connor was the Vatican's strongest supporter in the U.S.

He was also a Navy chaplain for 27 years, rising to the rank of rear admiral and serving as the Chief of Chaplains from 1975 to 1979.

Secretary of the Navy

Richard Danzig expressed his regrets about the passing of O'Connor:

"The men and women of the naval service will remember Chaplain O'Connor for the dynamic and aggressive leadership through which he set the course to achieve the best

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## Federal law enforcement officials peacefully remove Vieques protesters

*By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Federal law enforcement officials removed more than 200 protesters May 4 from the Vieques Naval Training Area off the east coast of Puerto Rico.

Protesters had occupied portions of the impact area on the training range since April 1999, after an errant bomb killed a Puerto Rican civilian guard.

FBI agents and federal marshals began evicting the trespassers at 5:30 a.m. May 4. Attorney General Janet Reno said the agents were professional and praised the "dignity" of the Puerto Rican protesters. Federal agents transported the protesters to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, where they were released. Federal and commonwealth officials filed no

charges against the trespassers.

About 250 Sailors and Marines are now on the range to provide security.

"As the Justice Department people complete their work, Navy and Marine security people moved onto the island, and they will take over the security on the island," Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon said during a May 4 press conference.

Coast Guard vessels are policing a three-nautical-mile zone around the impact area, Bacon said. "They have turned away nine vessels that tried to penetrate the zone, warning them in English and in Spanish," he said. The Puerto Rican Maritime Police also intercepted a boat.

Vice Adm. Bob Natter, director of operations, plans and policy on the Navy Staff,



**U.S. Marshal Service negotiators discuss with protesters the details of their peaceful removal from the main gate area of Camp Garcia, Vieques, Puerto Rico. U.S. Navy Photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Jim Hampshire**

said security details would become permanent fixtures at the range. He said security details would rotate in and out of Vieques from Roosevelt Roads.

Federal and commonwealth agents removed 140 trespassers from the impact area and another 64 from the

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# USS Carl Vinson Sailor receives GEICO military service award

By Journalist 1st Class David Luckett, MCPON Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Aviation Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (AW/SW) Kent Davis received the 1999 Government Employees Insurance Company (GEICO) Military Service Award May 1 for his work in fire safety and fire prevention throughout 1999.

The Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP), Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr.; the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON), Machinist's Mate Master Chief(SS/SW/AW) Jim Herdt; and GEICO President and Chief Executive Officer Tony Nicely presented the award.

Ryan praised Davis and the importance of awards programs like the GEICO Military Service Awards.

"Petty Officer Davis is indicative of the great Sailors we have serving throughout the fleet. What the majority of our Sailors consider to be routine, society considers above and beyond the call of duty. We could present a hundred of these awards every month, and we still wouldn't recognize all of the Sailors that deserve it. Petty Officer Davis'

daily actions are a credit to him and all of the shipmates on his team," the CNP added.

Davis serves as the Crash and Salvage Leading Petty Officer aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) in Bremerton, Wash. They are completing a stay in the shipyards and will start another round of "work-ups" by the end of the summer for their next six-month deployment. GEICO presented Davis the award for his contributions to multiple crash and salvage operations on board.

He also was a driving force in establishing the first Health Care Provider Program for Oak Harbor, Wash. The program trains 300 people annually in adult, child and infant CPR procedures.

After the awards dinner, the MCPON discussed Davis' actions and the quality of excellence in today's Sailors.

"I know that we have numerous heroes serving throughout our Navy today," said Herdt. "The only difference between our Sailors of today and the past heroes that built our tremendously proud

heritage is the opportunity to realize their heroic potential. Seeing the amazing quality of Sailors serving our Navy today truly makes my eyes water — I don't know where we consistently get so many dedicated men and women."

"While Petty Officer Davis' actions are undoubtedly heroic, he would be the first to point out that you need look no further than around his workshop to find shipmates just as heroic," said Herdt. "The sense of duty and accomplishment that he instills in shipmates is a main reason Sailors continually make sacrifices for their country and families," the MCPON added.

GEICO established the annual awards in 1988. All of the winners are hosted to a special weekend in Washington, D.C. They receive a commemorative plaque and a \$2,500 honorarium from the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation for their achievements.

Davis' wife, Lori, accompanied him for the recognition weekend.

For more information about USS Carl Vinson, go to <http://www.cvn70.navy.mil>.

## "Love bug" bites DoD, others

By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — "We don't love the Love Bug virus," Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon said May 4 during a press conference. The computer virus infected unclassified Department of Defense (DoD) computers worldwide, Bacon said. The virus entered two classified computers, but it was quickly detected and isolated.

"Despite these episodes, the Joint Task Force on Computer Network Defense says that it has received no reports that the virus had an impact on military operations," said Bacon.

"We are urging all our people to avoid contact — intimate or not — with the Love Bug virus," Bacon continued. DoD's first mission is to protect its computer networks. All DoD computer users were told not to open any e-mail with the phrase "I LOVE YOU" in the subject field.

A message went out to all DoD commands about the virus. The department is working with Symantec and Network Associates — experts in detecting viruses and developing vaccines. Current anti-

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main gate of the range at Camp Garcia. Now that the protesters have been removed, the Navy has resumed training at the range with inert ordnance.

The residents of Vieques will vote in a referendum on whether the Navy stays on the island or must leave. According to the terms of an

agreement between the president and Puerto Rican Gov. Pedro Rossello, the referendum can happen as early as Aug. 1 or as late as January 2002.

Alternative sites scouted by the Navy don't provide the training opportunities available at Vieques, Natter said.

"The training we're

conducting right now with the USS George Washington (CVN 73) Battle Group is deficient in the naval surface fire support training and in the coordinated maneuver of Marine and naval forces ashore," he said. "And so, we don't have adequate training to the level that has been heretofore provided by Vieques."

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# USS Estocin participates in Brazil's 500th year anniversary event

By Lt. Jeff Gordon, NAVSOUTH Public Affairs

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (NNS) — The U.S. Navy recently saluted Brazil's 500th year anniversary with Norfolk-based guided missile frigate USS Estocin (FFG 15) participating in a Brazilian navy-sponsored parade of ships in Rio de Janeiro Harbor April 30.

Brazilian President Henrique Cardoso reviewed the parade, which featured 17 ships from 10 different national navies throughout the Atlantic, and praised the multi-national flotilla for their impressive showing.

That evening, USS Estocin hosted a reception for U.S. Ambassador A.S. Harrington and over 150 international distinguished visitors. Role model ambassadors of good will themselves, dozens of crewmembers volunteered several days of their time in conducting community relations projects at orphanages in both Rio de Janeiro and Fortaleza, a city several hundred miles north of Rio. Hosting tours, a number of protocol events and a media day in Rio de Janeiro, the crew

also had the opportunity to enjoy over a week visiting one of the world's most exciting cities.

"I've been to a lot of places around the world and I would rate Rio in the top three," said Ship's Serviceman 2nd Class (SW) Derrick Johnson, of St. Louis, Mo.

"There is so much to see and do, I have truly enjoyed the time we've spent here," he added.

Portuguese explorer Pedro Alvares Cabral first set foot at Porto Seguro, several hundred miles north of Rio de Janeiro on April 22, 1500, marking the first European to land in the South American country and laying the foundation for modern day Brazil.

Sharing naval traditions for centuries, the United States



USS Estocin (FFG 15)

U.S. Navy photo

and Brazilian navies have had strong ties over the years, most notably during the UNITAS Exercises which have annually circumnavigated South America since 1960. In October 1999, Brazil hosted the first-ever Atlantic Phase of UNITAS, which featured realistic and relevant scenario-driven at-sea exercises among 23 ships from six nations designed to foster multi-

national coalition operations.

USS Estocin, due to return to homeport in mid-May, participated in the first-ever Caribbean Phase of UNITAS with six different navies, and made port visits to Cartagena, Colombia, and Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, prior to visiting Brazil.

For more about USS Estocin, go to <http://www.spear.navy.mil/ships/ffg15>.

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virus measures do not detect the Love Bug. DoD officials first will put in filters to screen out the messages, then add a specific vaccine to detect and deal with the virus, Bacon said.

Instructions from DoD were for those who received the message to delete it unopened. The Love Bug, also known as LoveLetter —

invaded news organizations, companies and other governments.

The Love Bug is a "worm" virus that spreads through e-mail like a chain letter, officials said. Once a person opens the file in the Microsoft Outlook e-mail application, the virus triggers infected e-mail to everyone in the victim's personal

address book. The virus also attacks graphic .jpg files.

The DoD first detected the virus in Europe May 4, Bacon said. Bacon said DoD will continue to protect its computer networks. DoD computer security experts will provide whatever support they are asked for to law enforcement agencies.





# Navy campaign underway for U.S. Savings Bonds

By the Navy News Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — A campaign to inspire Sailors and Marines to take stock in America is now underway. This year's U.S. Savings Bond campaign, "Creating a New Century of Savings," kicked off May 1 and continues the whole month.

The program was originally begun as an effort to support and strengthen the U.S. economy during World War II, but is still going on today in its 59th year.

But why are U.S. Savings Bonds so important? A few short answers are: safety, ease of purchase, tax advantages, financing, education, retirement and

improved market-based rates, just to name a few.

Currently, 55 million Americans own 800 million Savings Bonds for a total worth of \$186 billion, making them the most widely held financial security in the world.

It's a safe, sound way to invest in your future; the future of your children or other loved ones. For more information, contact your command Savings Bond rep or go to <http://www.savingsbond.gov>.



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for our sea service personnel," Danzig said.

"Whether it was with Marines in Vietnam, or with Midshipmen as the first Roman Catholic senior chaplain at the Naval Academy, he expressed caring through personal investment," said the SECNAV. "As Chief of Chaplains, many will recall his leadership by professional expertise through which essential and lasting contributions were made to the fair treatment of all people and ministry to families."

"I am deeply saddened by the passing of Cardinal John O'Connor," said Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Jay L. Johnson. "Cardinal O'Connor selflessly served our Sailors and Marines and their families for 27 years as a Navy chaplain, including four years as a Chief of Chaplains when the entire service was blessed with his spiritual guidance. We are forever grateful for his service to our nation and to our Navy."

He was ordained a priest in 1945 and joined the Navy in 1952. His duty stations included Destroyer Force Atlantic Fleet, USS Canberra (CAG 2), 3rd Marine Division Okinawa and Vietnam, and Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

It was through O'Connor's efforts as a Chief of Chaplains that the rating of Religious Programs Specialist was ap-

proved and implemented and the first Family Awareness conference was held. He established a professional development system for the Chaplain Corps, as well as an affirmative action plan.

During his career he wrote various articles and two books: "Principles and Problems of Naval Leadership" and "A Chaplain Looks at Vietnam."

Just prior to O'Connor's retirement, Pope John Paul II appointed him as a bishop of the Roman Catholic Church to serve as Auxiliary Bishop, Military Vicar of the Armed Forces. He retired from the Navy on June 1, 1979.

On May 10, 1983, O'Connor was appointed Bishop of Scranton. From there, he was appointed Archbishop of New York on Jan. 31, 1984 and named a cardinal on May 25, 1985.

O'Connor's decorations include the Legion of Merit with the Combat "V" and gold stars in lieu of second and third awards, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Distinguished Service Medal.

O'Connor was laid to rest at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Monday, May 8.

He is survived by a brother, Thomas J. O'Connor of Sea Isle City, N.J., and two sisters, Dorothy Hamilton of St. Petersburg, Fla., and Mary Theresa Ward of Chadds Ford, Pa.

## On Navy/Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more on next week's show:

\* The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy and the Fleet Master Chiefs hear from Sailors around the world during a live television broadcast virtual all-hands meeting;

\* The Navy honors Vietnam War hero Petty Officer James Wall by dedicating a new enlisted barracks in his name during a ceremony in Norfolk;

\* Navy and Marine Corps wrestlers compete for the chance to represent the United States in Sydney, Australia, for the 2000 Olympics;

\* Navy Seabees stationed in Greece come to the rescue of a town hit by massive flooding.

Compiled on tape #2000-20, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

## In naval history: May 17, 1987

USS Stark (FFG 31) was struck by two Iraqi Exocet missiles while on patrol in the Persian Gulf. Thirty-seven Sailors were killed.

## Submarine Centennial history: May 16, 1972

USS John C. Calhoun (SSBN 630) returned from patrol to Holy Loch, Scotland, successfully completing the Navy's 1,000th strategic deterrent patrol (975 Polaris patrols and 25 Poseidon patrols).

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